the Check List

Check Collector's Round Table

Volume III Number 1 Issue #9 January 1972
Published by Robert Flaig P.O. Box 27112 Cincinnati, Ohio 45227

Pay-Table-Office, 21 May 1783

SIR,

PLEASE to secure to John Carter

the Payment of Twenty Pounds One Shilling

& five Pence

being the Balance found due to him

for Service in the Continental Army in the Year 1781

Agreeable to Act of Assembly---and Charge the State.

£.20..1..5

Committee.

JOHN LAWRENCE, Esq; Treasurer.

10:0 8/12

Revolutionary War era check, forerunner to the billions of checks produced in America. The endorsement to the above and additional examples will be found starting on page 3. From the collection of Phil H. Snyder. (A)

C.C.R.T. AND T.C.L. INFORMATION

CCRT membership dues is $3.50 per year and includes four issues of THE CHECK LIST mailed 3rd class. First Class mailing add $2.00. First Class Mail must be used to foreign destinations - Canada and Mexico add $2.00 to dues, all others add $3.50. Remittance must be in U.S. funds.

THE CHECK LIST is issued quarterly with mailing dates as follows: January 31, April 30, July 31, and October 31.

Closing date for receiving material for publication is 30 days prior to mailing date.

Articles, clippings, news items, book reviews, comments and suggestions are solicited and always welcome.

Advertising rates are available from the publisher. Rate sheets will be included with one issue of TCL during the year.

Neither the publisher or CCRT assumes responsibility for transactions between members or members and other parties.

The views expressed in material received and published or included as a supplement may or may not be in accord with those of the publisher and his staff.

A complete membership roster will be issued once a year with supplemental rosters added on a quarterly basis.

* *

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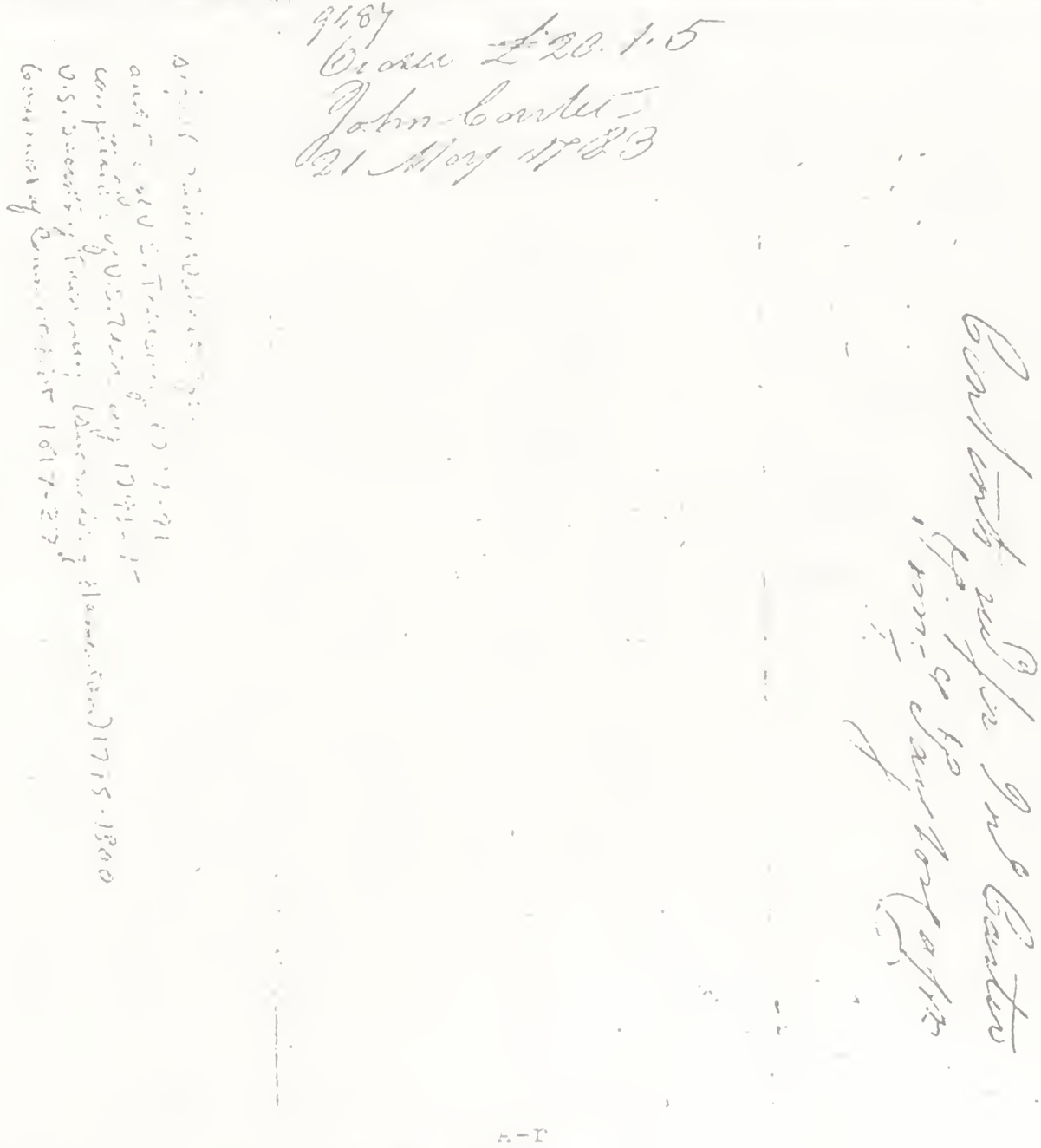
REVOLUTIONARY WAR ERA CHECK FORERUNNERS AND PAY ORDERS

Phil Snyder (CCRT #148) COHASCO, Inc. 321 Broadway, N.Y., N.Y. 10007

These historical payments for military supplies and salary for soldiers of the Continental Army are among the earliest check forms produced in America. Most printed checks of the time were made overseas. These have been endorsed on the backs as are modern checks!

(For identification purposes the face of the document is assigned a letter, the reverse endorsement is assigned the same letter with the addition of a small letter "r" so as to identify each endorsement with the face of the proper document.



A-r

The above is the endorsement as it appears on the reverse of the 1783 pay order illustrated on the front cover. Vertical writing identifies the maker of the document - Signed Oliver Wolcott, Jr., Auditor of U.S. Treasury 1789-91; Comptroller of U.S. Treasury 1791-95; U.S. Secretary Treasury (succeeding Hamilton) 1795-1800; Governor of Connecticut 1817-27.

Jan. 72

Sir

Please to secure to Mr David Bellamy the payment of Fifty pounds Lawful Money agreeable to act of Assembly it being for supplies furnished the Cont. Army and charge the State

Say Table Office 23d April 1782

Oliver Wolcott Junr.
Elizur Wales
Comm.rs

£50

John Laurance Esqr.
Treasurer

Received of John Laurance Esqr. Treasurer in the name of David Bellamy in full

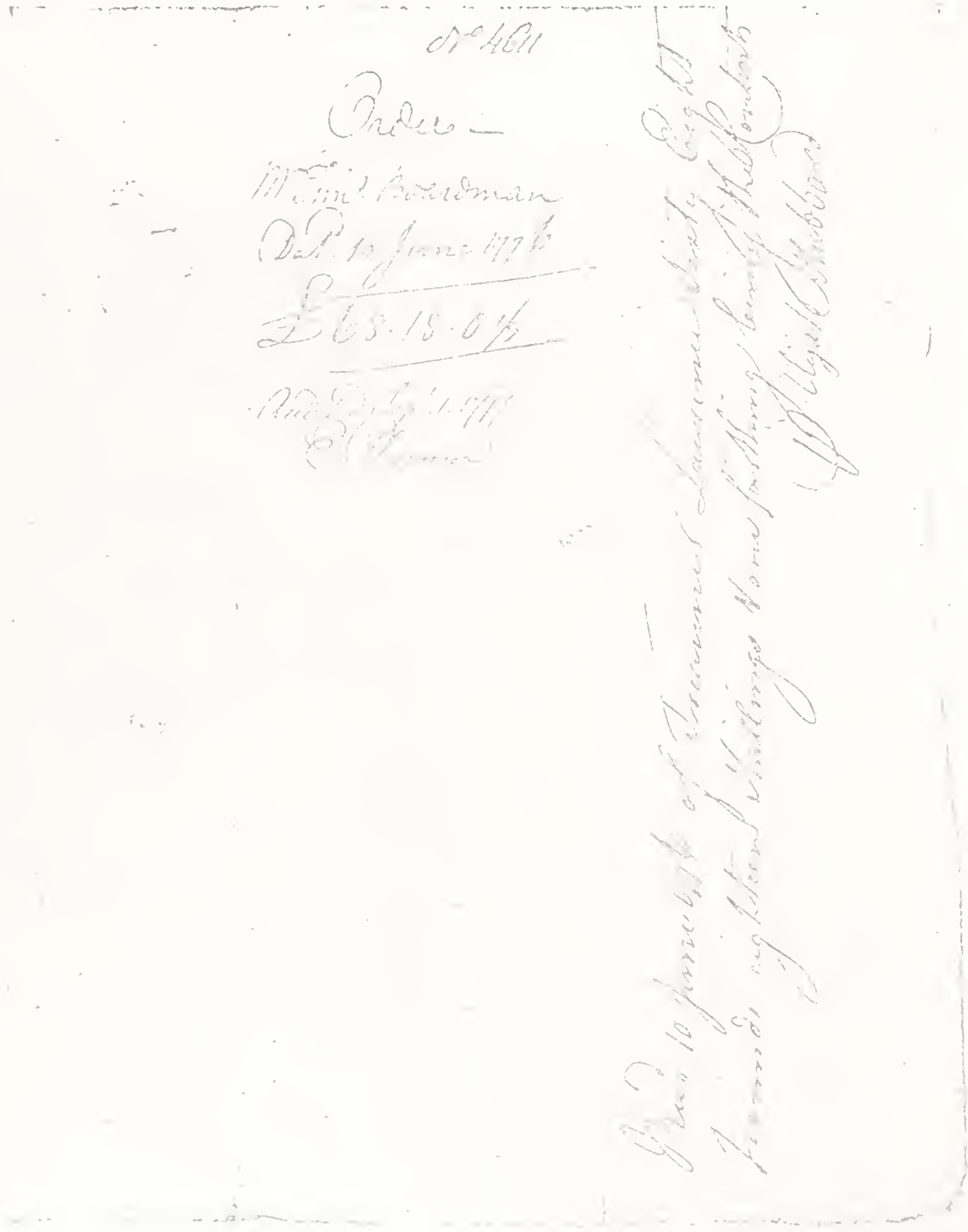
David Bellamy

Rec.
von Mr. Ino. Braeman Sept. Legat fünf Septembrilig
6 fl. für Trimium on 17 1/2 B. Bauten pro 1873 laut Rechnung
made in Nro 9 Rechnung belongs to Colony Inventory

£ 68-12-

Comte

Pr. 5
Cat. 72



Sir

Pay Capt. David Holmes, or Order
the Sum of Eighty Eight Pounds Three pence
Lawful Money for Pasturage and Provisions
of 355 Head Cattle &c. &c. Supplied the State
Augusta May 28th 1777

£88..0..3

Edmd Lamb

Wm. Laurence Esq. Treas.

Order No 169
Capt. David Holmes
Ldg. No. 3
Dated 28 May 1781
addressed 1st Sept. 1781
L. Pistou

Rec'd 28 May 1781 of Lieut. Lawrence Coghill Eighth
Regt. U.S. Infantry Commanding Detachment
Stephen Child

suggestions, ideas or constructive criticism. A note to your editor or any member on the committee (listed in issue #8) is all you need do.

Believe me, it takes one whale of a lot of effort and hundreds of letters on the part of your editor and his Participating Members to keep CCRT growing and active. When you are asked to participate in one of our programs or projects please keep in mind it is with the thought of making CCRT a better, more efficient and beneficial organization for all. We need your support whether it be for taking an active part in our auctions, our Question Box program, Exchange Service program, writing an article for publication or any other activity.

We give freely of our time and effort to do a good job; won't you support us in achieving our increasing and higher goals?

All this is not to say we have not gained more and more active support and membership participation, we have, and for this reason we continue to grow both in size and stature. Just imagine what we could be with just fifty percent of the membership fully participating in all our programs and efforts. This is an invitation for every member to be a "PARTICIPATING MEMBER" in our club programs.

Jeane and I wish to thank the many members for the cooperation and support given us throughout the past year. We stand ready to try for greater gains in 1972 and hope you will continue to back us up with your talents and efforts...May we count on you?

* * * * * * * * * * *

COLLECTION OF PRESIDENTIAL CHECKS BRINGS $7,750

At an unrestricted public auction held by Charles Hamilton, famous autograph auctioneer, the checks signed by our American presidents brought this huge price.

This collection, formerly owned by Jules K. Sindic, was auctioned at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel in New York recently. This assemblage of checks is said to be one of the best known collections of presidential checks known. All but Zachary Taylor and Richard M. Nixon were represented in the collection. Two of the checks in the collection had only endorsement signatures.

The Thomas Jefferson check dated July 2, 1804 was on the Office of Discount and Deposit for $100 payable to a Rev. Andrews McCormic. The check of George Washington was dated November 18, 1797 in the amount of $500. Other checks in the collection were those of Truman, Wilson, Coolidge, Hayes and Garfield, L.B. Johnson, J.F. Kennedy and Eisenhower.

The collection was housed in a looseleaf book of nine by ten inches. Transparent photograph corners and acetate interleafing were used to accomodate the checks within the book.

The new owner of the collection of presidential checks remains unknown at his request.

According to Mr. Charles Hamilton, checks signed by presidents have become very popular with collectors in the last five years and presently the demand is greater than the supply.

* * *

REVENUE STAMPS PART

Cliff D. Mack (CDM Associates) 60 Lois St., Newport Beach 92663

Illustrations by permission and courtesy of Scott Stamp & Coin Co.

It is in this field that stamp collectors, Tax Exempt (Fiscal stamp collectors) and check collectors have common meeting ground. The end product is collected by all these groups of collectors.

The stamps were printed in various values and designs on checks, bonds, receipts, stock certificates, insurance policies and other negotiable paper. It was an Act of Congress passed in July of 1862 to raise revenue to carry on the Civil War. The Act ran until July 1, 1872. We also have the series of 1898 to help pay for the Spanish American War.

The majority of these were lithographed, though some were engraved. Up to 1879 the stamps of the Internal Revenue Department were done by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. In this instance the stones or dies were loaned to private firms and the printing was done under the supervision of the government. The government was not too strict as to the inks used and while the bulk of these were done with oranges, many different colors and shades of colors exist. Some of the shades and off colors command more premium than the basic orange.

I have tried to supply illustrations to identify the main types. Should one really get serious in this field, my advice would be to procure a copy of Scott's "Specialized United States Stamp Catalogue" as the scope of this area is much too vast to deal with here.

The stone and dies used originated by quite a number of private firms as well as the Bureau of Engraving and Printing.

Along with the illustrations of images of each type I have included a list of the control figures of each type.

Adhesives of the Internal Revenue Department were also used in this period. I refer to attempt to identify these here at this time. While it was illegal to use anything other than revenue stamps to pay this tax, don't be surprised if you turn up something that has a postage stamp on it. It was done if the proper stamp was not at hand. Apparently the government never kicked as the check was paid. Paper with postage affixed is not too rare.

(Continued next page)

Get a copy of "Scott's", start looking and have fun.

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Vital issue of taxes right off press

R. Tilton, well known world paper currencies specialist and COCC member has recently published the first issue of PAPER TIMES, a monthly newsletter devoted to paper documents...checks included! In the spirit of cooperation and in gratitude for the many (mostly kind) letters received in response to my article in the May issue of TOC, I am enclosing with this issue of TOC...sample copy of PAPER TIMES. I'm enclosed

Illustrations reduced to About one Half size. MAJOR Types of Revenue stamped paper.

TYPE A

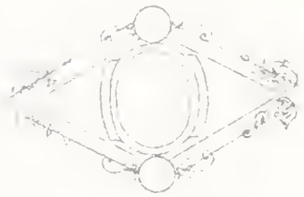
TYPE B

TYPE C

TYPE D

TYPE E

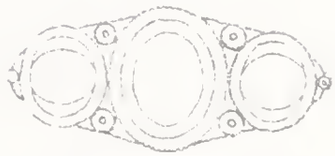
TYPE F



TYPE G

TYPE H

TYPE J



TYPE K

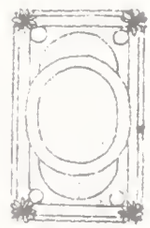
TYPE L

TYPE M

TYPE N

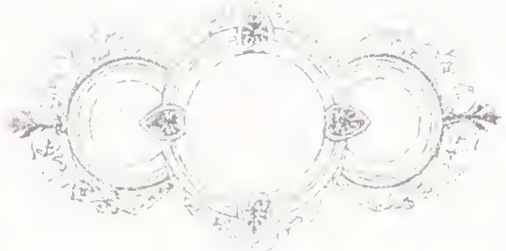
TYPE O

TYPE P



TYPE S

TYPE T



TYPE U

TYPE W

TYPE X

TYPE	DESCRIPTION
Type A	Numeral in Center
Type B	Eagle in Center
Type C	Washington to Left Center
Type D	Franklin to Left Center
Type E	Franklin to Left Center
Type F	Franklin to Left Center
Type G	Liberty to Right Center
Type H	Eagle in Center
Type I	Design same as B-5 Int. Revenue
Type J	Washington to Right Center
Type K	Washington to Left Center
Type L	Washington to Left Center
Type M	Washington to Left Center
Type N	Numeral C., Eagle Lft., Monitor Rt.
Type O	Liberty Left in Center
Type P	Frame same as Type F. Lincoln Cent.
Type Q	Jefferson Right in Center
Type R	Frame same as Type H. Lincoln in Cent.
Type S	Washington to Left Center
Type T	Eagle Center
Type U	Franklin in Left Center
Type V	Frame same as Type T. Lincoln Center
Type W	Washington to Left

Values are all 2¢ except Type P - 5¢, Type R - 10¢, Type S - 10¢, Type T - 25¢, Type U - 25¢, Type V - 50¢ and W - $1.00

100 Left Hand Clearing House Page

WANT- Would like to get in touch with dealers who have checks with signatures of famous people. Ken Howard, 14031 Halcourt, Norwalk, California 90650.

Want- Wanted- Copies of the many Express, Stagecoach reopening and Kentucky distilleries. Also, checks with signatures of Leland Stanford, U.S. Huntington, Mark Hopkins, Charles Crocker, Grant Marie and John F. Kennedy. Ken Howard, 14031 Halcourt, Norwalk, California 90650

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as are in need of "in depth" research articles for future issues of TCC. We need your support, but in any instance - offers material or not, contact TCC and tell us your idea.

Send your questions and answers to TCC question box.

LOTTERY TICKETS - A REQUEST AND AN INVITATION

Prof. Don Allen (CCRT #56) Faculty, Nova Scotia Teachers College, Truro, Nova Scotia, Canada.

Check collecting for me reflects a twofold interest of many years' standing, in (1) fiscal documents and security printing and (2) fiscal institutions and the lore of banking, national and international. I long have been a student and a collector of the banknote, perhaps the ultimate of security documents. An offshoot of this interest in fiscal paper and in anticounterfeiting resourcefulness has been a modest collection of official lottery tickets.

I first encountered legal lottery activity in Tijuana in 1966. (I since have always identified lotteries, however legal, with the taking of money from those who least could afford to toss it away.) Legal lotteries have spread in recent years. Of course, I picked up a fascinating computer-printed ticket in New Jersey this spring. My native province, Quebec, has had an apparently thriving "Loto-Quebec" for 18 months, recently adding $35,000,000 to the provincial treasury. Now, to my point. I spent this summer in Quebec, and have collected a good number of the attractive steel-engraved tickets of "Loto-Quebec's weekly "Mini-Loto", and some others. These tickets portray one or other of two historical figures from early Quebec history, Jacques Cartier and Samuel de Champlain. I'll gladly trade a pair of expired tickets in perfect condition with anyone who will send me an expired lottery ticket from his region - or from any of the international sweepstakes. Or, while the supply lasts, I'll gladly send a pair to any CCRT member who writes and asks!

* * * * * * * * * * *

DEMONSTRATION CHECKS

Larry Adams (CCRT #47) 969 Park Circle, Boone, Iowa 50036

The checks you see illustrated (on the following pages) with this brief article are referred to as "demonstration checks." They are blank check forms used by various check protector and office machine manufacturers and firms to demonstrate their machines.

They are quite unique in that no bank name is actually used - or no real bank name. A fictitious name, accompanied by usually the name of the firm at the top, in most cases comprises this type of check.

Since I collect the unusual, I am interested in forming a complete collection of these demonstration checks from every company that issued them. I would like to hear from any CCRT member who has any other varieties. I have a few others myself, but space does not permit their illustration, and I thought these were the most interesting of the ones I have.

WANTED: Demonstration checks from different check protector and office machine companies - address above.

THE HEDMAN COMPANY

DEMONSTRATION CHECK
NOT VALID

THE HEDMAN COMPANY

No.

CHICAGO, 19

PAY TO THE ORDER OF

$

31-6/720

BANK OF PROSPERITY

Curmudgeon-Chicago Corp.

THE OLD BANK
CITY, STATE

The FIRECRACKER BANK

ANYWHERE, U.S.A. 19

PAY TO THE ORDER OF $

DOLLARS

⑈0060⑈ 123⑈

PROTECTED BY SAFETY & CONTROL BANK CHECK PAPER AND THE CHEMICALS IN THIS PAPER REACT WITH ERASERS AND MOST ALTERATION ATTEMPTS

Burroughs Corporation

BUSINESS FORMS AND SUPPLIES GROUP

№ 004256

PAY TO THE ORDER OF

TO SAFETY & CONTROL BANK(S) EVERYWHERE

⑆000,000⑆ 0000⑆0080⑆

PATENT NO. 3,499,654

FORGERY PROTECTION DEMONSTRATION

1234

SPEED-O-PRINT

19 00-5678 1234

PAY TO THE ORDER OF $

DOLLARS

THE RIFT-O-MATIC CO.

OVER 1,000,000 PERSONS FORCE CHECKS AND CASH THEM EACH YEAR.

⑆1234⑆ 5678⑆

THIS CHECK IS VALID

WANTED - NEW MEXICO MERCHANTS SCRIP, BANK CHECKS AND DRAFTS

. . . . . .

I HAVE SOME ATTRACTIVE EARLY 20TH CENTURY NEW MEXICO CHECKS FOR SALE. A LIST WILL BE SENT UPON REQUEST.

. . . . . .

I WOULD LIKE TO OBTAIN INFORMATION ABOUT NEW MEXICO SCRIP FOR RESEARCH PROJECT. IF ANY OF YOU HAVE INFORMATION OR DESCRIPTIONS, I WILL APPRECIATE HEARING FROM YOU. I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO HEAR FROM ANYONE WHO HAS INFORMATION ABOUT THE HISTORY OF THE CITIZEN'S BANK OF NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA.

. . . . . .

ART CURTIS P.O. BOX 1091 ALBUQUERQUE NEW MEXICO 87103

This COBB & CO. (BREWERS) LTD. English check is through the courtesy of Mr. David Keable (CCRT #209) 37 Godstone Road, Purley, Surrey, England. Presented here are some random offerings from his recent listings.

Who would like a pint of Cobb & Co's. Margate Ale, Stout or French Brandy? Too late! But those long gone - had a Banker to thank for it. This family came to Thanet in 1693. The Banker's Almanac shows 1785 - Lloyds 1891. We have a few early, but not a quantity to list at this time. But rumour has it that older Cheques and Notes could be on the way. We do have a Ledger of Invoices. It seems that Banking and Brewing went on side by side. Dating 1827 - 1831. Many are letters combined with invoices, some covers with early cancels. All perfect. Mostly fine engraved headings. It seems that countless thousands of gallons of rum, brandy, shrub, peppermint, geneva, cherry, raspberry were drunk in a mere four years. Never mind what came straight across the Channel. A selection may be had at a guinea apiece. With two types of Cobb's cheque included. A history of the Cobb family will be sent to buyers.

Other offerings:

(3) A set of Modern Cheques specially picked for colour and pictorial design quality. From all over Britain. 24.....at.....$5.00

(4) Specimen Travellers Cheques. Australia and New Zealand Bank 1950 and 1956. Seven cheques all 00000, values £2/£20, all over stamped "specimen". Brilliant colours F.D.C. NOT MOUNTED....$7.50

(13) A SINGLE Letter of Credit. 9" x 12". ULSTER BANK in Violet. A beauty drawn in the style of the old Irish Notes. Anything from Ireland is rare - DATE UNKNOWN..... .....$10.00

(38) WESTMINSTER BANK ..... - 1 set of specimens in two large folders, Printed Blue, Black, Yellow, Overprints, Specimen . Some of cheques clipped to a letter which gives details - King and 1952-1960-1965 ..... $10.00

(39) A series book of ANGLESEA and LLEWELYN cheques Art Deslanty - MIDLAND MARITIME BANK, Pittsburgh, 1920 DEC 1947. 4 different Seaweller cheques. Are really top quality engraving and colour work if reclaim - and like SHREWSBURY - I LIKE THEM! Orbney Cater Canadian 1958; PEOPLES - Red and Black first NATIONAL BANK, SCOTIA, ANOTHER 1965 CUT - First NATIONAL CITY BANK of N.Y. and 1953 GOOD SPECIMEN ---- A million to 1 cheques All different - not Reclaims - Top Colour and engraving 1950 - 1960.....In Lieu.....$ 9.50

(36) THE BANK OF SCOTLAND 1950 4 cheques on foolscap, counter size to edge. Brown, Green, Blue, Orange £10. £5, £2, £1. Issue with the old reclaimed persons in colour as 19th Century banknotes of England.....$ 5.50

(40) BANQUE POPULAIRE SUISSE. A 4 page folder of instructions in German, French, Italian with 4 large specimens 50-100 200 500 Swiss francs, mounted perfectly for instant display. Overlapped over 20" x 3". The design is modern Pale Shades, Blue, Orange, Buff Green. Not remotely like anything else on this list.....$ 7.50

CHEQUE PRINTING PLATES: 19th Century. In gleaming polished red copper. 10" x 6" and 8" x 4" x 1/16th" solid. These are antiques in their own right, and must be a numismatic rarity. They would make a display or wall decoration item of never ending interest and provide a high satisfaction to the owner - the engraving obviously masterly. NO! you cannot put them in the Banker Album - just too heavy! Neither can you make a fortune printing cheques - previous owners have polished them and many of these cheques required special plates to provide the multi-coloured backgrounds and traces.....At.....$30.00

SHARE CERTIFICATES

The Shrewsbury and Hereford Railway Company 1846. Finely engraved black and white 8" x 10". Exc. clare. Looks like a 19th Century Banknote..$3.00

Toulouse Gold Mining Company 1870. share warrant of 5 x £9. Shares. Reverse stamp with Royal Arms 2/6d. The overall appearance of this relates to a Leplett score.....$3.00

The Great Northern Railway 1890. £25. Over 1000 books signed on Banknote Paper with fit into any album.....$1.00

The Tetuan Gold Mines Ltd. One hundred shares. Black and pink 1899..$1.50

The Pinera Copper Mining Co. 1863 Elegant black on blue.....$1.50

Share certificates. All very colourful - type SPECIMEN - NORMAL - DEFACED in types. Ideal for foolscap albums. 100% condition. Include each, a selection consists of seven coupons.....Each.....$1.50

A LARGE collection may be sent to approval against deposit - must not be taken.

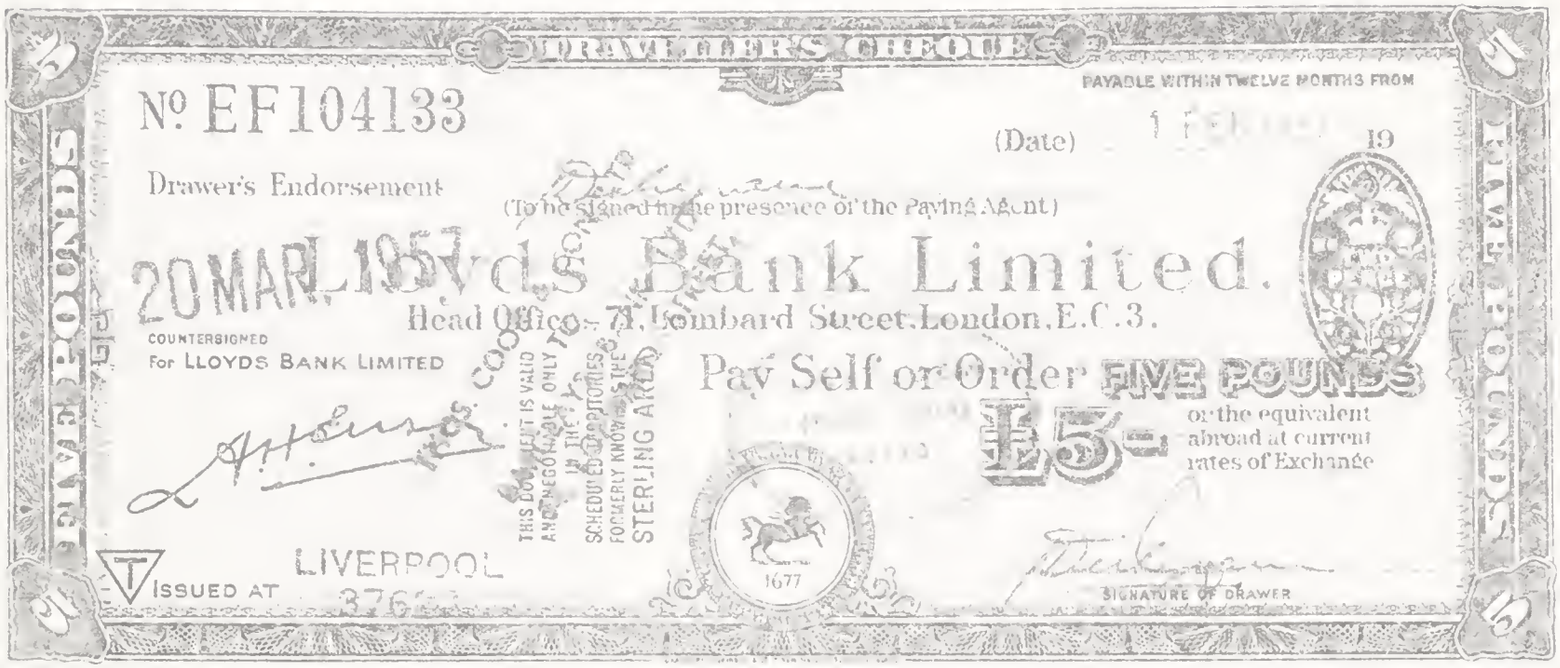
. . . . . .

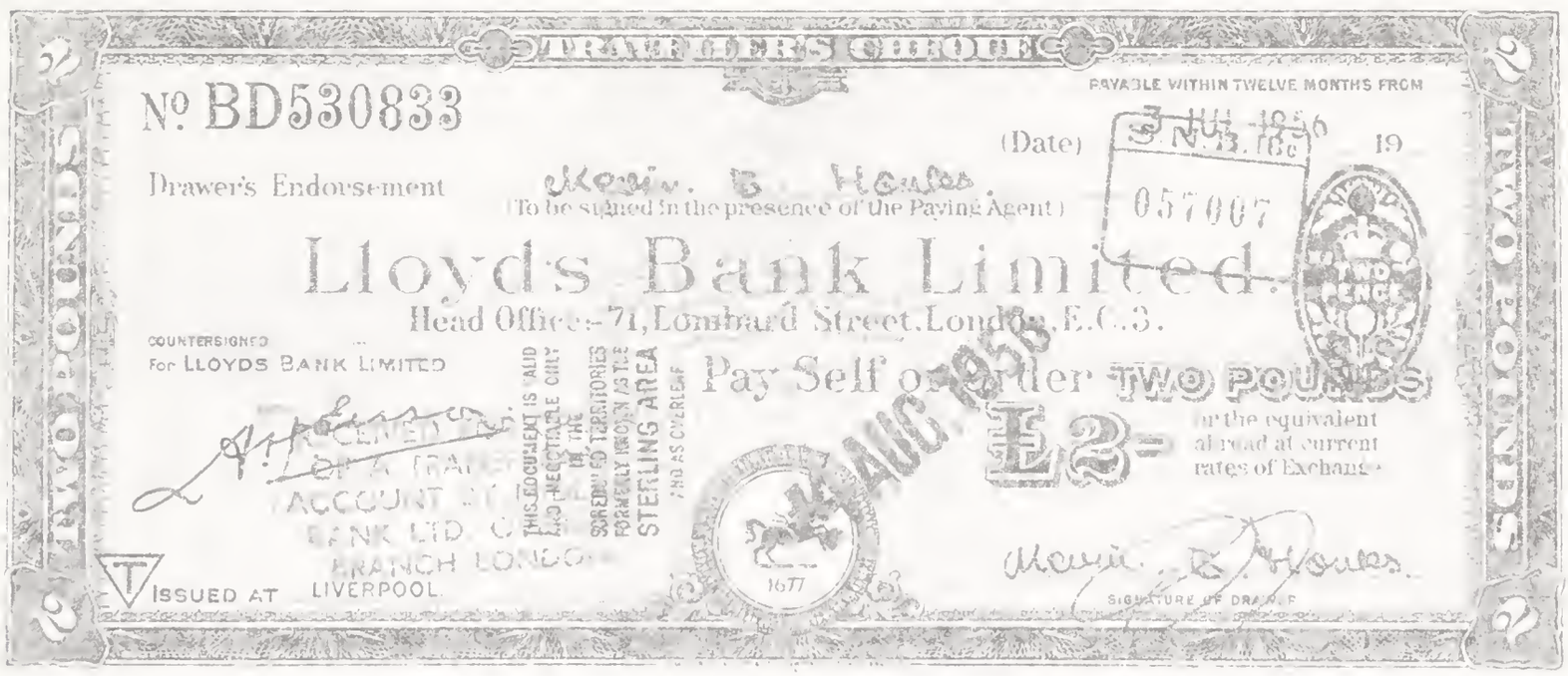
CHEQUES on the BANK of ENGLAND. A set of 5 1900 - 1909 and 1910 Pedro.....$1.00

A PAYING IN SLIP - Bank of Liverpool 1870 - Bank of Scotland Notes on Coventry 10. Great Britain. Security Bank Notes Reserve to Bank.....

ENGLISH TRAVELLER'S CHEQUES

From the collection of David Keable (CCRT #209) 37 Godstone Road, Purley, Surrey, England.


TRAVELLER'S CHEQUE
FIVE POUNDS
No. EF104133
PAYABLE WITHIN TWELVE MONTHS FROM
(Date) 19
Drawer's Endorsement
(To be signed in the presence of the Paying Agent)
20 MAR 1957
Lloyds Bank Limited.
Head Office-71, Lombard Street, London, E.C.3.
COUNTERSIGNED
For LLOYDS BANK LIMITED
Pay Self or Order FIVE POUNDS
£5-
or the equivalent abroad at current rates of Exchange
THIS DOCUMENT IS VALID AND NEGOTIABLE ONLY IN THE SCHEDULED TERRITORIES FORMERLY KNOWN AS THE STERLING AREA
1677
ISSUED AT LIVERPOOL
SIGNATURE OF DRAWER


TRAVELLER'S CHEQUE
TWO POUNDS
No. BD530833
PAYABLE WITHIN TWELVE MONTHS FROM
(Date) 19
Drawer's Endorsement
(To be signed in the presence of the Paying Agent)
057007
Lloyds Bank Limited.
Head Office-71, Lombard Street, London, E.C.3.
COUNTERSIGNED
For LLOYDS BANK LIMITED
Pay Self or Order TWO POUNDS
£2-
or the equivalent abroad at current rates of Exchange
THIS DOCUMENT IS VALID AND NEGOTIABLE ONLY IN THE SCHEDULED TERRITORIES FORMERLY KNOWN AS THE STERLING AREA AND AS OVERLEAF
AUG 1956
1677
ISSUED AT LIVERPOOL

Both cheques are printed in color, the two pound cheque is primarily red and the five pound note is predominantly green. Note the two pence tax imprint. The vertical overprint, left center reads "This document is valid and negotiable only in the scheduled territories formerly known as the Sterling Area". The two pound note has the additional wording, "and as overleaf". This reads "Also valid and negociable in Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Holland, Italy, Spain, Switzerland and all other countries in the transferable account area...Lloyds Bank Limited". This one was spent in Zurich, Switzerland with red rubber stamp reading "Remitted for collection through Midland Bank Ltd., Overseas Branch, London. Banque Nationale Suisse, Berne". The reverse of the 5 pound note has a yellow and blue two pence Suid Afrika revenue stamp affixed to the reverse side.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY REPORT

Larry Adams is now functioning as our new Membership Secretary. Records are presently being transferred from your editor to Larry's home.

ALL MEMBERSHIP MATTERS FROM THIS POINT ON WILL BE HANDLED BY LARRY ADAMS and should be addressed to him at 969 Park Circle, Boone, Iowa 50036.

The Membership Secretary will:

1. Send notices for renewal of dues.
2. Respond to membership inquiries.
3. Receive applications for membership including dues. (Dues will be forwarded to treasurer on periodic basis)
4. Send membership cards and acceptance (welcome) letters to all new members.
5. Send CCRT information and applications to known and reported prospects.
6. Send follow-up letter to those delinquent in dues.
7. Send additional CCRT application forms and information sheets to members who may request them for prospects known to them (These may also be had from your editor)
8. Other membership related matters.

Your editor is appreciative that Larry has accepted this responsibility; it will certainly lighten the work load. This is a necessary and responsible job which requires a great deal of letter writing and record keeping. As you know Larry has been an involved worker for CCRT in many areas from our beginning. He is dedicated and capable and has taken on this additional work to help your editor and CCRT - this help is welcome and appreciated. Please give Larry your complete support and cooperation.

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EDUCATIONAL CERTIFICATE REPORT

CCRT is one step closer in bringing the proposed Educational Certificate Program into operation. Mr. Frank M. Crowther (CCRT #168) 39 Sterling Ave., Warwick, R.I. 02889 has accepted the duties as chairman of this program. Frank has agreed to keep the necessary records to operate this program and when the certificates are available, they will be issued by him.

It is requested, <u>now</u>, before more time goes by and the records and notations of your efforts to publicize check collecting are lost, you send the information to Frank at the address above. Presentations before numismatic groups, service organizations, schools, radio and TV afford you eligibility for the Educational Certificate. Displays and exhibits presented where they may be viewed by the public also bring you an award of this certificate. Give the name of the organization to which a program was given, date, and if possible a signed notation by a responsible person of the organization hosting the event. This is a worthwhile effort to reward those who have used their talents and efforts to bring our hobby interest to others.

Your editor is aware some members have sent him such information during

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Jan. 72

The following article from the July 1971 issue of THE EXCHANGE, publication of The New York Stock Exchange, is reproduced with permission.

THE YEAR

New Wardrobe For Bankers

by Anthony Broy

In major centers from coast to coast where members of President Nixon's Commission on Financial Structure and Regulation are preparing position papers or holding hearings, the future of today's $827 billion banking industry is being molded.

Sometime after the commission has submitted its findings and recommendations, Congress is expected to act on what may be a wholesale reorganization of this nation's banking structure.

But even if the commission's findings are only partially enacted into law—or even disregarded entirely—banking as we know it today will have undergone far-reaching changes by the year 2000 by virtue of social, economic and technological changes that have already been set into motion.

Anthony Broy is a free-lance writer specializing in business articles.

Broader scope

By the turn of the century, the United States economy is likely to have a banking industry vastly larger and more diversified in activities, national in scope as opposed to today's largely state oriented systems, and encompassing several international banking consortiums.

Banking of the future, Federal Reserve Board member William W Sherrill predicts, "will be more broadly conceived with its prime function no longer predominantly lending, but a concept of greatly expanded financial service to its customers."

Checks could well become museum pieces. Though today's bankers shudder at the complications and pitfalls involved, Monday - through - Friday, nine to-three banking appears destined to give way to seven day, round the-clock operation. Technological advances will make possible the performing of transactions by card, telephone, or cable television, or at vestibule offices. Phone transactions could be verified by "voiceprints" stored in a computer.

By the turn of the century, the three great systems of present-day banking in this country—commercial, savings and loan and mutual savings banks—may well have merged into two. Under this these mutual organizations composed of savings banks and most S&Ls would become family financial consultation centers, while the stock companies—commercial banks and

2000
BOOK-KEEPING
PARTICIPATION MORTGAGE
BUDGETS
EARNING POTENTIAL LOAN
SPLIT MORTGAGE
FINANCIAL ADVICE

hold more than 70 percent of all commercial bank deposits. This trend will continue as banks seek to go where the people are.

¶ International bank consortiums will be even more deeply involved in multinational syndicate financing and financial services, including short-, medium- and long term loans, equity capital, insurance, underwriting, analysis of economic and financial conditions.

¶ There will be a blossoming of new types of financial instruments over the next 30 years. Bankers reminded us that just 10 years ago negotiable certificates of deposit did not exist and savings certificates were virtually unknown except in a few parts of the country.

¶ The composition of earning assets will shift markedly, with banks increasing substantially their U.S. Government securities, slightly more in commercial and industrial loans and markedly more in loans to individuals.

¶ Capital shortages, a chronic problem over the next 30 years, will be an inhibiting factor on profitability of all types of banks.

Many businesses

Bank managers in the year 2000 will not just be managing money, but many, points out Peter Drucker, Booz, Allen & Hamilton's banking department. "The business will have unique operating and marketing requirements which may be drastically different from the traditional banking business itself. The bank's management manager will also be involved in negotiating and acquiring other companies as well as starting up new businesses of his own."

Some Big Board Bank Stocks

1970 Assets (million)	Rank	Company	Principal Bank	Recent price	1971 earnings per share*	P/E ratio
$29,750	1	BankAmerica Corp. #	Bank of America	62	$4.75	13
25,835	2	First National City	same	34	2.65	13
24,526	3	Chase Manhattan	same	51	4.17	12
12,065	4	Manufacturers Hanover	same	32	3.04	10.5
12,112	5	J. P. Morgan	Morgan Guaranty	64	5.57	11.5
10,400	6	Western Bancorp.	20 in the West	34	3.20	11
10,979	7	Chemical New York	same	57	5.71	10
10,331	8	Bankers Trust	same	56	5.29	10.5
7,938	12	Manufacturers Hanover	same	34	3.44	10
7,306	13	Chemical New York	Irving Trust	21	2.20	10
6,622	14	Wells Fargo & Co.	same	30	2.54	11
4,842	21	Northwest Bancorp.	Marine Midland Northwest	34	3.04	11
4,140	26	Bankers New York	same	43	4.84	9
2,677	54	Unionamerica	Union Bank, L. A.	29	2.07	14

* Estimated earnings for year by analysts.

Business as usual systems to organization and control will need to be developed.

As mediator for investment by the man on the street, by mutual funds and various fiduciaries, equities of commercial banks and bank holding companies will have investment qualities far different from those they possess today.

Since 1951, there have been big major bull markets in bank stocks and a number of sharp downturns. Over the next three decades, underlying forces will be pulling both up and down, but on a less cyclical basis than in the past.

On the one hand, increasingly intense competition for corporate money and the limitations of debt and bank holding company stocks favor [illegible]

On the other hand, [illegible]

[illegible] banks will be able to [illegible] more than at present.

In the current environment, banks work on a very thin margin and are subject to extreme price-cost squeezes on an almost continuous basis. So in the past several months bank stocks as measured by the Salomon Brothers Bank Index have been selling at a modest 10.5 to 12.5 times earnings, while industrials in the standard averages have been selling at around 15-17 times earnings.

A far greater spread in price earnings ratios is likely to develop within the bank and bank holding company groups with the most aggressive financial supermarkets commanding multiple spreads many times that the present 11.5 times earnings, while weaker management may command p/e's in the 6-9 range. Currently, bank stocks are relatively "safe" and can be found in many conservative-endowed portfolios. In the future, bank stocks may be part of the more venturesome investor's portfolio as super-aggressive managers reach for higher profits.

The Special Gifts of Iron Cliffe [illegible] announced in the July, 1971 Check List quick [illegible] more than a century over 175. The most generous [illegible] ever offered is back with more Iron Cliffe [illegible]

Four one-cent [illegible] left, all by the Iron Cliffe Company of Scranton. These four cents are all issues of the United National [illegible] 1970's & 1980's, each with a $1 [illegible] revenue imprint RN-B1, RN-D1, RN-F2 and RN-G2. The lot of 4 for $2.00 postpaid, with 100% of proceeds to Cmdr treasury.

Send cash [illegible] to D. F. [illegible], P.O. Box 30, Woodland Calif. 95695

Reading left to right-
Mrs. Helen Morris - Forest City, Iowa
Bill Ott - Ottumwa, Iowa
Gene Morris - Forest City Iowa
Mrs. June Budd - Fort Madison, Iowa
Lee Marsh(rear) - Keokuk, Iowa
Mr. & Mrs. Wardin Jackson, Vermont, Ill.
Russell Rulau (right rear) Sidney, Ohio

LARRY ADAMS EXHIBITS AT HISTORICAL FAIR

Larry Adams (CCRT #4), 969 Park Circle, Boone, Iowa, has again displayed his material. Larry exhibited his old checks, stock certificates, check writers, scrip, National Bank Notes, local trade tokens, numismatic publications, and a lithograph stone, at the Boone County Historical Society Fair held in the Community Buildings on October 15, 1972. This fair was the third annual held by the society, and included some 45 exhibitors of historical material. Attendance was estimated at over 2000, and included visitors from many parts of Iowa. Pictured here, he holds the lithograph stone over a case containing old checks.

WHAT MEMBERS ARE DOING AND SAYING

Prof. Don Allen (CCRT #56) Nova Scotia Teachers College, Truro, N.S. reports displaying noncompetitively an exhibit with the title of "Guaranteed Payment Plans for Canadian Bank Cheques" at the Atlantic Provinces Numismatic Association Fall Rally at Moneton, New Brunswick. At the Bank of Montreal, Truro, Nova Scotia during National Coin Week, April 18-24 1971 he had an exhibit under the title "The Travellers Cheque - A New Look in World Currency".

* * *

Al Wick, (CCRT #72) P.O. Box 2242, St. Louis, Mo. 63109 sends word he has taken his new spring book #27 HOBBIES TO ENJOY to the printer. His many subscribers, who look forward to this interesting publication on a great variety of hobbies, will be receiving them during March. He notes in his letter to CCRT that this issue will have three pages devoted to checks. Send $1 to Al if you would like to see a copy....it's well worth it.

* * *

Mr. Daniel Vander Werf, Jr. (CCRT #39)of Holland,Michigan was guest speaker at a recent dinner meeting of the Jane Steketee Questers. His subject was on the "new" hobby of check collecting. A full report appears in this issue.

* * *

Larry Adams (CCRT #4) 969 Lark Circle, Boone, Iowa 50036 announces that the 9th Mid-Iowa Coin-A-Rama will be held in Boone, Iowa, at the Community Building, Fairgrounds on February 26-27, 1972. This is the largest central Iowa coin show held, and has been well attended in the past. Larry would like to meet with the Iowa CCRT members on Sunday afternoon, and invites all to attend if they possibly can. Circle this date!

* * *

The following is a letter from Mr. Harmon M. Weeks (CCRT #83) Box 623, New Rockford, N. Dakota 58356. "I am enclosing a list of checks for the Early Check Listing in The Check List. I too think this list can become very useful and I hope more members will send in their lists".(This list was forwarded to Bill Heald who is working on our "Check Census".)

Mr. Weeks continues, "I believe another way to create interest and help collectors would be to select a popular series and handle it like Numismatic Scrapbook did the Hershfield drafts, listing the basic types and assigning them an identification letter or number of some kind. Other basic types and minor varieties to be added as they were reported. Probably the Bank of North America or the Bank of U.S. would be a good one to start with. Member Cliff Murk illustrated four different types of checks of the Bank of the U.S. in his article in PAPER MONEY. This would make a good start and I am sure many more could be added by other members. It would no doubt take some time to complete but I think something has to be done and the sooner we start the better."
(Editor comment - This is an excellent idea; will some member write me saying he'll coordinate a listing for such a project?)

* * *

"....also I think the Exchange Service is a great idea. I intend to send some checks today. This will help make this an organization for Collectors....". This from Bruce Anderson (CCRT #207) 504 Overlook Dr.N.E. Lancaster, Ohio 43130.

* * *

Herman L.Boraker (CCRT #156) P.O. Box 204, Rocky Ford, Colo. 81067 notes, "I only need the following to complete my set of canceled checks from 1¢ to $1.00: 1¢, 2¢, 4¢, 6¢, 12¢, 47¢, and 54¢. Write me if you have any of these".

WHAT MEMBERS ARE DOING AND SAYING (cont'd)

Mr. Robert O. Greenawalt (CCRT #243) 3643 N. Rosemead Blvd., Rosemead, Calif. 91770 a collector specializing in old and canceled railroad stock and bond certificates has recently joined us.

He informs CCRT, "In the picture I am holding a 100 pound British bond of the Death Valley Railroad Co., of 20-Mule Team Borax fame. This 20-mile California steam line ran between Death Valley Junction and its Ryan mines from 1914-1931. The huge Pacific-type locomotive and tender portrayed on the handsome document would have never fit on its narrow gauge (3') rails".

Mr. Greenawalt specializes in Western Steam Roads but is interested in all lines, both U.S. and foreign.

In the past few months several other new CCRT members have listed specific interest in stock and bond certificates. It is suggested that these particular members check our membership roster and contact each other.

* * * * * * * * * *

C.C.R.T. MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE SOON

Membership Certificates for CCRT will soon become a reality. Bill Heald, who did the art work for these certificates, and Larry Adams have been looking into possible costs of having them printed. They believe they have found a printer who can produce them at reasonable cost and they are now working out the final details. By next issue they should be available.

* * * * * * * * * *

Our sincere sympathy to member Frank Crowther and family in the untimely passing of his twenty-two year old daughter this past November.

LOT 100-61 (continued)

No. 661 Same as No. 361 only vignette of train of covered wagons on Santa Fe Trail across Kansas.

No. 761 Same as No. 361 only vignette of MidWay, oil wells, buffalo and sun flowers.

No. 861 Council Grove, Kans. May 10,1961. Vignette Civil War 1861-1865, our 34th state admitted Jan 29th 1861 under the Wyandotte - Antislavery constitution.

No. 961 Council Grove, Kans. May 10, 1961. Vignette-map of Kansas with gun and arrow. Statehood

No. 1061 Council Grove, Kans. May 10, 1961. Vignette Kans. Capitol, Brown on white.

ALL 10 FIRST DAY ISSUES ABOVE, NICE $4.50 Postpaid.

WILLIS H. SMITH 16001 37th TERRACE INDEPENDENCE, MO. 64055

* * * * * * * * * * * *

THE QUESTION BOX

Vince Oehrlein (#24) P.O Box 646, San Pedro, California 90733

It has been proven many times over in other collecting hobbies that those people who derive the most enjoyment from their hobby are those who go beyond the simple acquisition of material and begin wondering what their material had to do with history, customs, and traditions of the time in which it was produced or used. Many of you wrote most interesting letters in response to the initial appearance of this column and for them I thank you very much - those who have not yet participated are invited to do so-surely there must be something about an item in your collection which causes you to wonder "why", "who", "when", "for what purpose", etc. Send all answers and new questions to: Vince Oehrlein, P.O. Box 646, San Pedro, Calif. 90733.

Note: At the suggestion of J.E. "Jack" Weaver we are adopting a slight change in the numbering of questions. Those appearing in the last issue should be preceded by the digit "8" to indicate that they first appeared in issue #8.

Answers to previous questions:

8-1 Received many answers on this one, with a conflict or two between those sending in answers. As one might suspect, collectors of revenue stamps were probably the first to collect checks, but their real interest was in the stamps so can we really call them check collectors? (this is the way I became interested in checks, by the way--Vince). There had been collections of checks and fiscal paper for a long time in museums and in other like places, but since we are interested in check collectors who collect them simply because they are checks our inquiry revolves around that point. Jack Weaver indicates that the earliest one he knows of who collected only for the check is Donald J. Anderson, a CCRT member. Don, how about some info from you as to when you started and whether you know of anyone who was collecting before you?

8-2 Had two very detailed answers come in on this, and they are most interesting.
From Larry Adams: Quoting from BANKING, TRANSPORTATION, AND FOREIGN TRADE" (1897) by Seymour Eaton: "We often see attached to the end of a draft a little slip with the words, "No Protest; tear this off before presenting." This is simply private advice to the banker informing him that the drawer does not wish to have the draft protested. It may be that he does not wish to wrong, or injure the credit

(continued on page 52)

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[illegible]

Publication	Issue Date	Title	Page
The Numismatist	Sept 71	[illegible] a different [illegible] [illegible] in Austria in 1923, not used [illegible]	[illegible]
The Numismatist	Dec. 71	Don't Throw Away Those Auction Catalogues [illegible] previously [illegible] apply to tokens & related material also.	1777
Numismatic Scrapbook	Jul. 71	Numismatics of 'Old Alabama' Con't from June 71 issue. [illegible]	71[illegible]
Numismatic Scrapbook	Aug. 71	Numismatics of 'Old Alabama' Con't from July 71 issue.	[illegible]
Numismatic Scrapbook	Sept 71	Mason Hospital Donation [illegible] Gold Coins. Illustration of $1,100,000 check. Donation from Masons of Miss. to Masonic Hospital [illegible] U. of Miss.	[illegible]
		[illegible] Gold Bullion [illegible] 1857. [illegible]	[illegible]
		Numismatics of 'Old Alabama' Con't from Aug. 71 issue.	[illegible]
Numismatic Scrapbook	Oct 71	[illegible] by James O. [illegible] [illegible] Colorado [illegible]	[illegible]

CHECK REFERENCE MATERIAL (cont'd)

Publication	Issue date	Title	Page #
Numismatic Scrapbook	Oct 71	Numismatics of 'Old Alabama' Cont'd. from Sept 71 issue. Current counter check of Repton, Ala. illustrated on pg 1010.	1010
Numismatic Scrapbook	Nov. 71	Idaho Check Signed by Morgan Check illustrated. J.T. Morgan & Co. Bankers paid through Wells Fargo & Co. bank in Salt Lake City Utah 1884.	1066
		Numismatics Of'Old Alabama' Cont'd. from Oct 71 issue	1136
Newsday	Oct. 71	A Fortune in Your Attic? Discussion on checking out worthless securities for possible value. Sent in by Mr. Chattan.	40 A
Tucson Daily Citizen	Jul 71	Check Collecting Takes Many Approaches. On the subject of Old Arizona checks and check collecting in general. Sent in by James S. Reynolds.	?
Coin World	Sep 8,71	Check of Gold On Display Solid gold check for $1,000,000 illustrated. Funds raised by Masons in 1966 for Masonic Memorial Hospital at U. of Minn.	45
		Wells Fargo Stock Comes To Light. Stock certificate issued by American Express Co. in 1860's is hand signed by Henry Wells, President and Wm. G. Fargo, Sec'y. who also were co-founders of Wells Fargo Co. Illustrated. Informative historical information written by Dick Bowman.	24
Coin World	Sep 15,71	Oversized, Colorful Check Check illustrated, size 8½ by 11 inches, described as printed in yellow, red and green. Issued at Imperial Shrine Session in Miama Beach, Fla. 1971	47
		Early Bank Draft Shows Portrait of Swedish Nightingale Jenny Lind. Check illustrated with portrait of Jenny Lind. Information about check and Jenny Lind by Grover Criswell.	47
Coin World	Sep 22,71	Check On Elongated Cent "Coin-Check" illustrated.	18

Publication	Date	Title	Page
Paper Money (Official Publication of The Society of Paper Money Collectors)	Vol. X No. 4 Whole No. 52 1972	Counterfeit Paper Currency and Its Detection - Part II - Genuine Paper Currency - by Thomas Hallenbeck - The Indiana Bank, Lebanon Branch & Co., Ltd. - A Study - Part II	147
Paper Money	Vol. 10 No. 4 Whole No. 40 1971	E.A.W. Bank Discounts check, bank drafts or other cash items for purpose of determining legal reserve. Letter presented for payment and paid. Certain exceptions	154
		Details of a new check rule which took place of many individual checks.	
Paper Money	Vol. 10 No. 4 Whole No. 40 1971	The New York State Free Banking Law Free Banking History of N.Y. State. Article contains many pieces of correspondence concerning banks, laws, money, etc.	167
		Currency and Check Varieties Etc. - A Mix (Not Just Bank). Many collectibles of paper money and its cousins - the varieties of engraving, interesting and interesting. Written by Dr. Howard A. Bowers	175
	Vol. 21 No. 3 Issue 1971	Counterfeit Bank Bill Issue Issue Gives results of raid (1) upon Iowa Bank (all were spread although plans were drawn and checks and certificates of deposits were seized). Check & Cert. of Dep. illustrated, written by Jo Lacy Abel	180

Other Publications of Interest

Second Additional Issue Account (A Book Issued) published by Harris Bitton. It analyzed Vending of a Second Issue in Canada. See for some details on this and other issues of Canada.

Rarity and Desirability of Issues by Austria & Hungary. Pay to Bilingual Appeal Decision of Both Official and Private Publications. Includes Austria, Hungary, U. S. Data. Used in by Dealers Issues.

CHECK REFERENCE MATERIAL (cont'd)

HOBBIES TO ENJOY, Book #26 contains two full pages devoted to check collecting. Illustrated are checks of the Bank of North America and Bank of the United States. The article touches on ration checks, collecting notes from the publisher and many bits of interesting information. The total issue contains 80 pages with space devoted to a great many hobbies. Interesting and informative. Published twice a year - $1.00 a copy from Al Wick, HOBBIES TO ENJOY, Box 2242, St. Louis, Mo. 63109.

PROLOGUE, The Journal of The National Archives. This publication touches on various aspects of our history: contains factual information. Contains photographs, some in color. Contents of the fall issue lists the following: "Property and Pay"- recalls the first women hired by our government to trim notes; the idea of Francis E. Spinner, treasurer of the United States under Lincoln. Other articles are "Our Heritage in Maps, Soldiers and Symbols - The Origins of the Army Shoulder Patch, The National Archives and Records Service and Its Research Resources - A Select Bibliography, Archivist's Calander, Publications of the National Archives and Records Service, Book Notes and Contributors. It is of interest to the historian and general reader. Soft covers. 8 by 10 inches in size and quality printing. Published three times a year - Spring, Fall and Winter. One year subscription $5.00, Back issues are $3 and the current issue is $2. Order from Cashier, National Archives (GSA, Washington, D.C.) Make checks payable to GSA (NATS) ...Bob Flaig.

NEW IOWA-NEBRASKA BANK DIRECTORY AVAILABLE SOON
The 1972 edition of the Iowa-Nebraska Bank Directory will be available in mid April, 1972. This pocket-size volume contains a wealth of information for the collectors of Iowa and Nebraska checks, including a list of all Iowa and Nebraska banks, names and titles of all bank officers, recent bank statement figures, and bank phone numbers and banking hours. This directory can serve as a handy check list besides being a useful reference. It can be ordered for $7.00 from Northwestern Banker, 306 Fifteenth Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50309

TYPE REGISTER OF CHECKS, MONEY ORDERS, BONDS, TALONS AND COUPONS in the SOVIET UNION 1917-1924 is now available. It is the work of Erik Johanson, Helsinki, Finland. The book covers the "near money" used during the Russian revolution 1917-1924. Discussed are checks issued by branches of the state bank, credit coupons, checks from cooperative banks, exchange coupons, tickets and receipts intended for local use. Values of this material are not given. In all, the book describes some 76 near-money types. This 44 page book, soft cover is available for $4.00 and is written in English. The address for ordering is: Erik Johanson, Louhentie 1B5 Tapiola 3, 021130, Finland.

PRELIMINARY INVENTORIES Number 169, Treasury Department Collection of Confederate Records. This is an excellent source reference book describing Confederate material in the National Archives and includes numerous financial records and records of stocks and bonds issued. A "must" for any collector of Confederate numismatic pieces. Sixty-five pages, paper cover in 8 by 10 size. Send to: Publications Branch, The National Archives, Washington, D.C. 20408 (No Charge). This one called to our attention by Larry Adams.

FRIENDLY WORDS FROM OTHER SOURCES (cont'd)

Cooperation comes our way from the new editor of THE RAG PICKER, Mr. Ralph Werve. THE RAG PICKER is the official quarterly publication of The Paper Money Collectors of Michigan. Ralph writes: "Thank you for your kind letter and copy of THE CHECK LIST. You have a good idea and a fine start in membership, keep plugging and we will try to help.... Best...Ralph." Enclosed with his letter was a half page publicity item for CCRT which appears in the December 1971 issue of THE RAG PICKER. Here's what the item says: "INTRODUCING C.C.R.T....Every member of the PMCM should also belong to the C.C.R.T. or Check Collectors Round Table. Here is a young vibrant organization just two years old with over 200 members. The Club issues a publication called THE CHECK LIST four times each year. The October issue contains 52 pages of interesting factual information pertaining to all aspects of check collecting and related items. May I suggest that you contact..." The article continues by giving information as to dues, person to contact, etc. Thanks a big heap for these welcome words - they are appreciated. We'll return the favor!

A word from the AMERICAN TAX TOKEN SOCIETY....Our good friend Jerry Bates, well known collector and researcher of the American Tax Token Society is a great believer in helping promote clubs in other fields. He has given CCRT publicity in some of his previous ads, paid for by him. He has manned our table at conventions when we were absent. His recent letter states "The enclosed list will appear as a paid ad (by me) in "Coin Hobby News". Also - sent a copy to Clem Bailey of Numismatic News who says he will mention the clubs thereon from time to time in his column COINAGE. I keep pushing clubs and hopefully, someday, at least fifty percent of the collecting fraternity will belong to one club or another...Jerry". This one lists CCRT again! Thanks a million Jerry.

Since our last issue of TCL Mr. H. Jack Miller has joined CCRT; Jack is also a member of the above mentioned American Tax Token Society and is their publicity chairman. In a spirit of cooperation their recent news release is presented here.

AMERICAN TAX TOKEN SOCIETY

A new organization catering to the collecting interests of sales tax tokens buffs and related items has been conceived, formed and is now in full operation

This group - American Tax Token Society - was formally organized in January, 1971 and from a mere handful of interested persons now numbers over 125 members, each of whom is actively engaged in their collecting forte - sales tax tokens whether in medal, paper or cardboard form.

This organization is run with a formal constitution, a democratically elected slate of officers, issues a bi-monthly printed publication and is considering an annual international convention to include our Canadian members. Dues are a nominal $2.00 per year.

Officers Jerry Schimmel as president, Mike Pfefferkorn as vice-president, Charles Carter as secretary and George Frakes as treasurer comprise the officer slate. Each of these men has been actively engaged in sales tax collection activity for many years. Add to this list, well known Jerry Bates, board member, and you can understand why this organization has progressed so rapidly in such a short time of nine months.

Potentially interested members should contact Charles Carter, 721 Glencoe St., Denver, Colorado 80220, for membership applications and any questions concerning membership privileges. COME JOIN US.

A BLIND MAN WRITE CHECKS? Yes!

The article with the above title was sent in by Larry Adams of Boone, Iowa. It appeared in the August 1971 issue of SAUKENO. The following gives a brief summary of its contents.

It is now possible for a blind person to write a check because of the invention performed by Norman Henderson in the basement workshop of his home. What he developed was a combination braille-script checkbook.

Persons who become blind or visually handicapped after a period of having normal vision, usually retain their writing ability or can easily learn script writing; the checkwriter invention takes advantage of this. Both braille and script are used to record the necessary information. The Checkwriter is made of a pair of hinged aluminum plates with horizontal writing-guide slots for date, amount, payee and signature. For other areas of the check, braille cells are used for transcribing necessary information. The depositor can also record information on the check stub for balancing his statement at the end of the month. This allows the blind person complete control over his account with no help necessary.

A new account is opened in the usual way with a signature card and an initial deposit. The new customer receives the "Checkwriter" and a supply of specially imprinted checks marked "Braille Account". At the end of the month the blind customer receives two statements, one in regular form and the other in braille.

. . .

BRAILLED MONEY was a featured item by Mort Neff in his half page coverage appearing on page 18 of the August 8, 1971 issue of COIN WORLD. He suggested, in illustration form, three vertical rows of braille dots be embossed in the "ones" appearing in each corner of the bill. The 5's appearing in each corner would be embossed over with a "I". The 10's in each corner of the bill would have an "X" impressed in braille. Instead of a "XX" over the 20's, a double parallel line of braille dots would be used, this to eliminate the possibility of raising a ten dollar note to a twenty. One fifty dollar note would have an "L" embossed over the 50 that appears in each corner and the one hundred dollar bill would use a "C" over the 100 in the four corners. Using this method would make it very difficult to raise the amounts on the notes, yet be very simple for a blind person to determine the amount of a given piece of paper money.

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CANCEL CANCEL CANCEL CANCEL CANCEL CANCEL

United Missouri Banking Memorial Inclusive NATIONAL CURRENCY, CHECKS, OBSOLETE NOTES and scrips from ST. LOUIS, MAPLEWOOD, CLAYTON, MANCHESTER, FERGUSON and ST. CHARLES.

Mount National Wildlife check folder here.
Mount Scenic Americana II & Expressive
check folder on opposite page.

Pg. 40 Jan. 72

DELUXE CHECKS

The checks and check folders illustrating these six distinct and different series of checks are included in this issue through the courtesy and generosity of DELUXE CHECK PRINTERS. We are indebted to DELUXE CHECK PRINTERS for sharing their beautiful product with us - at no charge. These have to be among the most picturesque checks produced in America.

Your attention is called to the fact the specimen check book contains one check of each of those illustrated in the folders - each check is different and bound within the book, series by series. It's a collection in itself. Mount checks on additional pages or keep intact. It would indeed be a nice gesture, when you again order checks from your bank, if you would request DELUXE CHECKS of the series you prefer.

EMPEROR NORTON OF SAN FRANCISCO AND HIS PAPER MONEY

Harry Boisen (PMCM #C253) P.O. Box 26388, Sta. B, San Francisco, California 94126

Reproduced with Mr. Boisen's permission. The following article was produced for THE RAG PICKER, official publication of The Paper Money Collectors of Michigan and appeared in the January 1969 issue.

Old Emperor Norton is still popular enough to have his picture appear on a current series of Wells Fargo Bank checks. The background of the check is lavender with illustration in green, blue and yellow.

(The article is written for Ragpickers but will have equal interest to check collectors)

Many ragpickers have inquired if there really was such a person as Emperor Norton, and whether he actually did issue his own brand of paper currency. The answer is yes--a happy yes, indeed!

Joshua Norton (his real name) arrived in San Francisco in 1849, and set himself up in the import business. In 1852 he contrived to corner the rice market, and his ships (so-laden), swarmed into the harbor. Most of the crews, enticed by the wild tales of gold nuggets lying in plain sight along the mountain streams, hopped their ships, leaving the cargo. Before Norton cleared all of the legal barriers, the shortage of rice passed and he lost everything. Some said he lost some, if not all, of his mind; others claim his later shenanigans were due to his fondness for Pisca Punch--a hellbroth of a beverage next in kin to some liquid form of atomic energy.

Somewheres along the line he became a crony of the Editor of the newspaper known as the ERA or NEW ERA. Norton, Pisca Punch and the free and easy pen of the editor, all contributed to the delightful events that followed.

as the gold rush commenced, along with large rolls of quires, a [illegible] Proprietor, and later a Saint, was established, and the Peaceful Quakertowne of also. A lower, politically controlled police department enforced the law in a haphazard pretty manner. Miners, lured from surrounding encampments from a stay in the city solabooze--as long as their supply of nuggets held out, that is. As crime and disorder increased, many asked the magistrate what sort of peaceful scenario was needed, and who could send his troops, without taxes, to maintain law and order.

So, it came to pass, that the SFA announced that Joshua Norton had proclaimed himself absolute ruler of the city and environs, and would hereafter be known as Emperor Norton, and everyone automatically became his subjects. This announcement was greeted with cheerful acceptance. The first edict of the self-crowned emperor was that all crime would cease, as of now. Oddly enough, much of it did! Of course, most folks deemed it more than co-incidental that at this same time the famous San Francisco Vigilante Committee went into high gear. Their first act was to string up the chief of police. (His remains now lay in state at the Mission Dolores). Many applied other stringent punishment: a brief trial, if any, while conducting much debate as finding the proper rope and tree or some such other crude scaffold. Quite understandably these drastic moves brought an abrupt halt to the skullduggery by those who were termed as "the lower element."

The popularity of Emperor Norton increased by leaps and bounds. San Francisco's famous fine tailors fashioned a uniform, resplendent with gold and other royal trappings. Every issue of the SFA carried accounts of his various activities. No matter how absurd, Norton never denied any of it. Along with being a likeable cuss, he appeared to be a master showman. A good time was being had by everyone. When the Emperor's dog Bummer (of questionable parentage), succumbed, a period of mourning was declared, and thousands watched as the dearly departed was carried the epoch to it's final resting place.

Dignitaries from the United States, and even from abroad, were officially greeted by the Emperor--a happening which they enjoyed more than the royal delighted by the Norton. No historian has ever attempted to report true news of the antics of the times. It is too difficult to sift the facts from the fanciful.

But there was one bone-chilling fly in the ointment. Regardless how generous was the bequest of the many free-lunch counters where he was always welcome, it was quite apparent that his Emperor business required a certain amount of pocket money, and the contributions, (so to speak), from the general public, failed to keep the kitty full, by any part thereof. Furthermore, it was hardly in keeping for such a Monarch to put the touch on his friends to keep the royal household on a going basis.

A happy solution was discovered. The Emperor began to print and circulate his own paper currency. This was greeted most likely, by the pressure of the presses--as a promising event. And so before, it was printed in good quality inks, and well printed. Regardless of denomination, the orders are all the same--succinctly stated by the Emperor. The lowest value I ever saw was to pay the bearer $10.00. All were initialed and were redeemable on call.

The paper was good enough to [illegible] almost every merchant in the city paid it. All business houses [illegible] it as change. Even the banks [illegible] it at par. [illegible]

one entered into the act, and his offer was seldom refused. Once a month the Imperial Keeper of the Exchequer held a lively soiree at one Murphy Brother's Bar, where, probably conditioned by a round of the aforementioned punches, the miners exchanged their gold dust and nuggets for notes delivered and autographed by the Monarch himself.

For many years Emperor Norton and his entourage of hanger-ons enjoyed public acclaim. But as the city grew from just sort of a friendly town, interest gradually faded. Railroads, telegraphs, rapid transit between the eastern cities by way of a fast land trip across lower Mexico, had all found a place among the folks looking for something new.

On a rainy night in 1880, near old St. Mary's Church (damaged by the 1906 earthquake, repaired, and in use today in the heart of Chinatown) Emperor Norton collapsed. Needless to say, the funeral is remembered as one of the city's finest.

There are still some genuine Emperor Norton paper notes in the hands of dealers and collectors. Some few years back, a tavern bearing his name was opened, and issued replicas to mark the event. One or more of the genuine are on exhibit in several of the San Francisco museums.

To show the spirit of Norton still flourishes, during the recent political campaign, buttons, bumper stickers, etc. appeared urging his selection as chief executive. On election day there were several write-in votes in his behalf.

If you are a stalwart soul, when you visit San Francisco, as surely you will, fortify yourself with one or two Pisco punches, and after dark, ride the outside pew of a cable car. Pause at the top of Powel Street Hill, and in awe, survey the panorama of lights far below, reaching to the horizon. If you wish to continue your research, sweeten the first "Punches" with another brace. Thus, I promise you on the return trip, you can get all the facts from the Ghost of the good Emperor Norton himself.

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DANIEL VANDER WERF JR. ADDRESSES QUESTERS GROUP

The following is a report as it appeared in The Holland Evening Sentinel, Holland, Michigan. It is reproduced here with the permission of this publication.

Daniel Vander Werf Jr., questioned document examiner and Circuit Court reporter, was guest speaker Wednesday night at a dinner meeting of the Jane Steketee Questers at the Andrew Dalman cottage.

Vander Werf told about check collecting, the "new" hobby which is gaining momentum throughout the United States. The Romans are credited with inventing the check around 352 B.C., and checks were first introduced in the U.S. in 1681, although they did not gain widespread use until after the Revolutionary War in 1775-83.

In illustrating his talk with color slides, Vander Werf showed a number of checks dating back to 1792 which were written on the Bank of the United States.

In 1862 Congress passed an act that required all checks and related financial documents to have U.S. Revenue Stamps affixed to them. With few exceptions these were two cent stamps and were cancelled with pen and ink, stamp or punch. Stamps were often imprinted on the face of the checkitself.

Taxing of checks remained for a 20-year period until discontinued in 1882. Because of the Spanish American War, checks were again taxed under the Revenue Act of 1898 for a period of three years, with final lifting of the tax in 1901.

A number of unusual checks from Vander Werf's personal collection were displayed. Popular collector's items included checks of L.H. Hershfield and Company and Wells, Fargo and Company, dating back to the gold rush days of the 1850's. Numerous Civil War checks bearing the two cent tax stamp were also shown, as well as gold dust receipts and other financial documents, including checks from foreign countries.

In telling about changes in check designs, Vander Werf stated checks began simply with handwritten transactions on scraps of paper, followed shortly by a simple form of printing. It was in the 1860's that the engravers and check printers combined to produce true works of art, showing allegorical figures, ships, trains and subjects of the era.

By the mid-1870's richly engraved checks were beginning to disappear and check forms began to be imprinted to advertise the drawer of the check. By the turn of the century, color and illustration were both the exception rather than the rule, and most 20th century checks became strictly utilitarian business forms.

Today there is an about face again on check design. The last half of the 1960's saw many banks blossom out with colorful checks, with California banks taking the lead. Today's checks contain many types of designs and scenes and have become colorful.

Vander Werf noted that in spite of some problems caused by confusion

ADDRESS OF MR. MEYER, POSTMASTER-GENERAL, AT THE BANQUET OF THE NEW ENGLAND POSTMASTERS' ASSOCIATION, BOSTON, MASS., OCTOBER 12 1907

Larry Adams, 969 Park Circle, Boone, Iowa 50036 (CCRT #4)

(Mr. Adams shares this interesting address with our members. It is in the form of a printed booklet datelined Washington: Government Printing Office 1907. While the first paragraphs deal with postal matters (interesting too), the latter part discusses the beginnings of the Postal Savings Bank System and why it was started.)

Mr. President, and Postmasters of New England:
Some one has said: "Uncle Sam meets his folks face to face at the post-office." It was in order that I might have the pleasure of meeting the postmasters face to face that I accepted the invitation of this association.

It is the post which brings people from all parts of the world into communication with each other. In 1639 the General Court of Massachusetts ordained that Richard Fairbanks's house in Boston should be the place for all letters. Benjamin Franklin, the father of our post-office, was appointed postmaster at Philadelphia in 1737, and in 1753 he was appointed Deputy Postmaster-General for the Colonies. The Continental Congress made him Postmaster-General, and authorized him to establish post-offices from Maine to Georgia.

Washington, in 1789, appointed Samuel Osgood, of Massachusetts, the first Postmaster-General of the United States. At that time there were but 75 post-offices. The rate of postage was 6 cents for 30 miles, and up to 25 cents for 450 miles. To-day there are 62,659 post-offices and an equal number of post-masters. The rate of postage is 2 cents an ounce for first class mail addressed to people living in North America or in our insular possessions, and 5 cents an ounce on first-class matter for other parts of the world. It is surprising and gratifying that there are so few errors, when we consider that we are distributing in the United States about a thousand million letters and postal cards a month.

The expenditures for 1906 were $178,449,776.89; the receipts $167,932,782.95; the deficit being $10,516,995.94. Judging from the figures of the first three quarters and the estimate for the last quarter of the fiscal year ended June 30, 1907 (the exact figures will not be available until the end of this month), there is every indication that the deficit will be reduced to about seven million dollars for that year. Consequently, I do not propose to advocate the raising of rates, because I believe that the weighing of all mail matter which is now being carried on under the authorization of Congress will show, when we take into consideration the franking privilege and make a proper charge on the books for the mail matter distributed for the various Departments, that the Post-Office Department is not chargeable for much of a deficit.

The history of the rural delivery is an interesting one, and should be understood by our people, for the reason that there is a feeling prevalent in many parts of the country that this service is an extravagance and an unnecessary drain upon the Department. However, let us look at the results accomplished in the last ten years: The first rural route was established in the fall of 1896. Fifteen thousand dollars were expended during that fiscal year, the postal deficit being eleven and one-half million dollars. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 1907, the expenditures

up to 11 pounds, or 25 cents for a package weighing 11 pounds. In Germany the small storekeeper has not this advantage in competing with mail-order houses, but he has adapted himself to the situation, and in many instances has become the agent in his town, thus supplying the people with goods which it is impossible for him to keep in stock without a great outlay of money.

I am also considering the advisability of recommending a local parcel-post delivery at city free-delivery post-offices, but in order to install such a system it will be necessary to obtain from Congress a special appropriation to acquire wagons and automobiles to do the required hauling. As already stated, there is a parcel post existing in the United States today, but at a rate of 16 cents per pound and a limit of 4 pounds. The object of my recommendation to Congress will be to get a decrease that will meet the rates charged for parcels sent by post to other countries. In other words, a reduction of 4 cents a pound, and an increase in weight which will compare in some measure to that which has been adopted by other highly civilized nations. An 11-pound limit will, however, be far from the maximum established by France (22 pounds), Germany (110 pounds), and Belgium (132 pounds).

Another matter of great public interest which I shall recommend for the consideration of Congress is a postal savings bank system, which has been adopted by many countries in the last thirty or forty years. These banks were established in England as early as 1861, in France in 1882, and in Austria in 1883. Now, with us in New England, we realize that the necessity for postal savings banks is very much less than in many other parts of the country, and this is demonstrated by the fact that in New England the average distance of the savings bank from the post-office is about 15 miles; in the Middle and Western States it is about 25 miles; in the Southern States, 33 miles; and in the Pacific Slope States, 55 miles.

We desire to encourage among our people economy and thrift, and by the use of the postal savings banks to give them every opportunity to husband their resources. The policy will not be to compete in any way with the savings banks, but rather to encourage the habit of depositing savings. The people that we shall want to reach are, first, those who have not the facilities at hand for depositing their money in a savings bank, and secondly, the foreign population which is entering the country in such enormous numbers and which is, to a great extent, hoarding its surplus earnings. The immigrants reach the United States suspicious of any private banking institution but with absolute faith in the Government. We have evidence of this in the fact that they are buying postal money orders payable to themselves. Our object is to bring hidden money to light, to instill life into it, and to lead it again into the channels of trade, for the mutual benefit of labor and capital, and thus add to the prosperity of the land.

Furthermore, we should encourage the foreigner to deposit his earnings, because after he has accumulated a few hundred dollars he will not be content to receive merely a 2 per cent interest, but will seek to purchase a home; and the moment he acquires real property in this country he becomes a better citizen, is more actively interested in the affairs of the nation, and at the same time places himself and his dependents beyond a likelihood of becoming public charges.

It is proposed to bring this money into circulation by asking authority from Congress to place the deposits in the national banks of the country, not in a few financial centers, but in the banks of the district where

the money has been deposited. I have been [illegible] to prominent presidents of national banks that the Post-Office Department may count as [illegible] for such money turned over to them a rate of interest varying from 2 to 3 per cent. The Department would guarantee the depositor 2 per cent, or 1 percent semiannually. Thus evidence is given to the savings banks that we are not in competition with them and that our business would in no wise affect their deposits, their rates being usually from 3 to 4 per cent. The amount of money in the United States is estimated to be $3,[illegible] 675, of which $1,[illegible],000 is in the banks and $3[illegible] in the Treasury; the balance, $1,778,501,620, being in the hands of individuals and other sources. This last amount seems large at first glance, but when we think of the wages that people are earning to-day, and that if each person in the country had in his possession $10 in cash, $800,000,000 would be accounted for, or about half the amount.

It will be the policy of the Department also to simplify in every way the registry and money-order systems, so that less time may be consumed in registering letters and obtaining money orders.

I find that there is a great demand from the public for postal notes, and it is the purpose of the Department to recommend such paper in denominations of 10 cents, 20 cents, 25 cents, 30 cents, 40 cents, 50 cents, 60 cents, 70 cents, 80 cents, 90 cents, $1.00 and up to $2.50. It is the intention to have the notes payable to the party designated. A small fee will be charged, but time will be saved, as no advices are to be sent. From 1 cent to 9 cents the notes will be made payable to bearer, and no fee will be charged.

Tests of stamp-vending machines will be begun this month, and if the machines are satisfactory they will be adopted, as they should prove convenient to the public in facilitating the sale of stamps.

At the end of the calendar year complete information will be obtained relative to the cost of transporting the various classes of mail matter, and the amount of mail matter which is franked, and the quantity handled for each of the various Departments, Congress having appropriated $300,000 for the weighing of the mails for that purpose. Thus, for the first time in the history of the Post-Office Department, it will be possible to figure intelligently the actual cost to the Government of handling the mails, and I believe the data so obtained will tend to show (when we take into consideration the cost of transporting mail matter for the different Departments of the Government) that a very large portion of the deficit would be wiped out if such free matter were properly charged on the books.

Gentlemen, in a brief way I have to-day called to your attention some of the chief recommendations which the Department will present to Congress. I wish to congratulate the Convention upon its meeting and to assure you of the pleasure it has given me in having this opportunity to meet the postmasters, and I now wish the members of the New England Postmasters' Association success in their organization, as I feel and know that such organizations have been excellent for the best interests of the postal service.

* * * * * * * * * * *

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

THE QUESTION BOX (cont'd from pg. 32)

8-2 of, or add to expense of his debtor, or it may be that he considers the account doubtful and does not wish to add to his own loss,that of protest fees."
From Jack Weaver: "Protest is simply a legal process---very similar to notarization--that a bank can take on a bad (NSF, etc) check if requested to by the payee. Or is obligated to take unless protest is waived by a No Protest on the check. It was and is a somewhat cumbersome process and is waived on most items. It's been a long time since I've seen a check protested but it is not unknown today. It gives the payee or holder an indisputable evidence of non-payment with which he can go to court." (Understand protest items are a special interest of Don Thrall - care to enlighten us further Don? - Vince)

8-3 Nothing---anyone have anything to offer?????

8-4 There appear to have been many banks that were operated as a sideline to the main business of the bank owner. The April, 1971 issue of TCL contains a very interesting article on the BANK OF LANYON. Jack Weaver mentions that P.T. Laugenour ran a bank in the 1890's that was strictly incidental to a general store and his principal occupation was that of a grain broker. Many of the early California banks were "sideline" operation to the express business, notably Wells, Fargo & Co. (Note the comma--Vince). Many of the early banks were just one facet of a very dominant community figure who was also a big land owner and/or developer and/or rancher and/or insurance man etc. Clear up to the 1930's, some banks were very heavily in the securities business with other banking functions very incidental to that. (Anyone know of any bankers whose principal occupations were not so honest--like bank robbing, stage holdups, etc? Vince).

8-5 Stanwood Bolton, Jr. came up with the most definitive answer to the location of La Porte, California. He reports that La Porte was in Plumas County and that a 1935 Rand McNally Atlas gives a population of 45 with the indication that it was too small to show on the map. A more modern map does show La Porte on the edge of Plumas County, almost in Sierra County (Population 50).

"Financing an Empire" by Ira Cross dismisses the Bank of La Porte rather quickly in Volume I with two lines:"(It) was organized some time in October, 1871, with $12,500 capital stock. It voluntarily retired December 24, 1890". In Volume II he adds: "On December 24, 1890, the Bank of La Porte applied to the Superior Court for voluntary dissolution and subsequently retired, paying all creditors in full".
Many thanks to Jack Weaver for the research on the history of this bank.

8-6 As one correspondent said, this question defies a simple answer. Perhaps the best answer would be an article or two on the general subject by those most knowledgeable on the subject of reference material that we might have a chance of locating through used book stores or one of the out-of-print specialists that advertise in the book section of many metropolitan newspapers. Larry Adams and Jack Weaver (hereby christened the "Dynamic Duo") both came through on this one and Larry offered to write an article to be titled "Reference Sources For Bank History". This should prove to be a very interesting article, Larry, and we'll be looking forward to seeing it in TCL. Jack Weaver writes that he knows of three books dealing with the banks of California but all three are now out-of-print.

(continued next page)

THE QUESTION BOX (Cont'd)

8-10 (cont'd) on each check paid and charge same against accounts of customers drawing such checks. It is suggested that you make appropriate deductions on your check stubs at the time checks are issued."

In line with the above, Stanwood Bolton, Jr., sent in a check on the Lockport Exchange Trust Company, Lockport, New York, dated January 13th, 1934, originally written in the amount of $303.10 to which has been added a rubber stamped "Tax .02¢" above the amount in figures and the penciled notation below $303.12". It would appear that the statement of the maker of the check was charged $303.12 for this item (??) Does anyone have a copy of a bank statement of the time that would give us a firmer idea of the manner of the handling of the tax? Unfortunately, the check submitted by Mr. Bolton has a rather poor rubber stamped impression and probably wouldn't show up too well in illustration. Stan notes that the impression appears in blue from December 29, 1932 to January 13, 1934 and in darker colors (reddish-purple or red-blue) from March 9 to May 26, 1934.

8-11 No responses--????

8-12 N.A. Wunder writes that he finds himself slightly confused (me to!) as many of the earlier checks in his collection are not endorsed at all on the reverse. Says he has a Texas check from 1916 with a signature and below that the notation "By wife". And one from Rhyolite, Nevada dated December 18, 1907, made out in full but the signature line reads "Expense".He also notes he has many items endorsed with a company name, but with no signatures. (Of course this is common practice today where a business uses a rubber stamp endorsement reading "Pay to the order of___(bank)___ and the name (or names) of the company below with the account number to which the item is being deposited. These endorsements are usually limited by the statement "For Deposit Only". Does anyone have any information on current rubber stamp endorsements that are NOT "For Deposit Only"?, or is any other statement allowed? When a check of the earlier days carries no endorsement, what proof did the maker of a check have that the rightful party received the funds?
Joseph Einstein believes that central banks charged for collecting funds drawn on country banks and that, prior to clearing houses, this "exchange" covered the postage and handling of the item. Normally such exchange was charged to the party receiving the check. When a payor wanted to cover such charges, the check was marked "with exchange" and such charges were deducted from the payor's account at the time the check itself was paid.

8-13 A most interesting question and one that appears to have appealed to many of the members. Jack Weaver came up with the following: "I find these Royalty Stamps (all subtitled "Second Million") on 5 check books of 3 local banks. Stamp #20089 is on the inside front cover (as are all the others) of P.T. Laugenour (Banking Department), Dunnigan, California. This was in reality just a window in Mr. Laugenour's general store but was the only bank Dunnigan has ever known in its long existence. It was in operation only between 1894 and 1897 and I'd have to believe their checks are about as rare as any. In this checkbook, the stubs show the first check dated 12-14-95, the last written on 8-20-96. Thirty of the original 50 checks remain in the book.

(Cont'd next page)

8-13 (Cont'd) "Nos. 33571 and 47680 are on the books of the formers Merchants Bank of Woodland (predecessor to our present Bank of America). Stubs in the first book run between 12-19-93 and 7-3-96, the second picking right up on 7-5-96 and running til 6-27-97. Other F&M books with dates as early as January 6, 1900 do not contain this stamp.

"Nos. 106583 & 106886 are on Bank of Woodland (predecessor to our present Wells Fargo Bank) books. Earliest stub is 1894, latest September 1894, much earlier than the books with lower serial numbers noted above.

"All of these check books are bound at the left end with a fly-leaf providing space for three entries followed by three blank checks. I suppose that that is the feature that was patented.

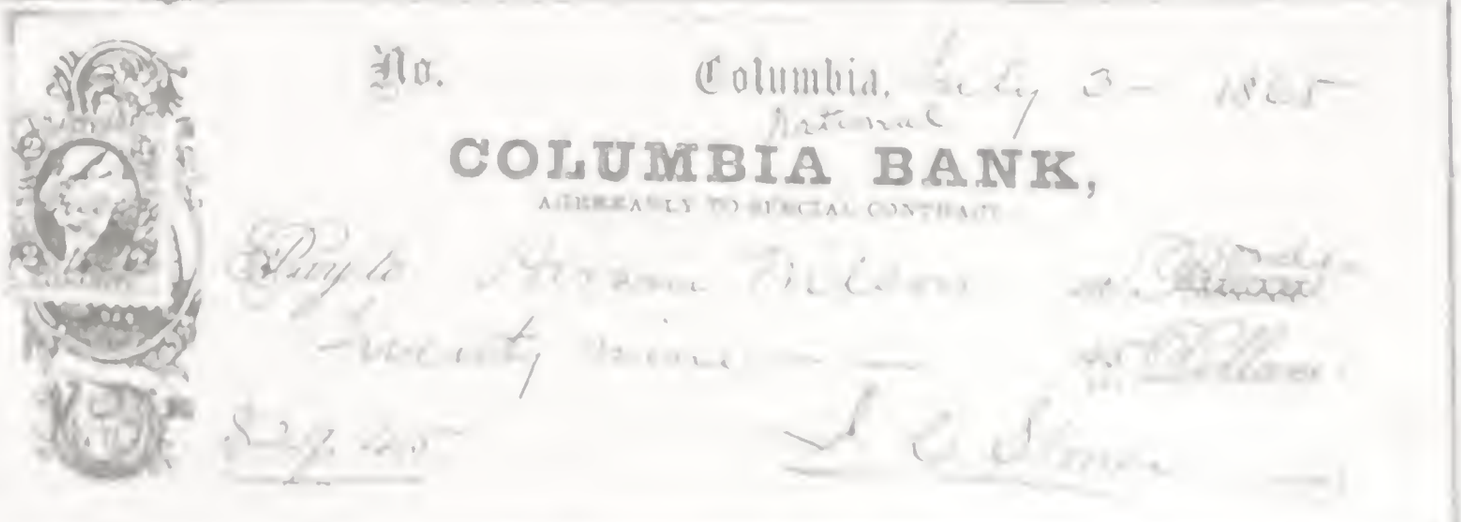
"The stamps on the Laugenour and Bank of Woodland books are very much like those illustrated in Check List #8 except: 1) the second patent owner is Norrinston, not Morrington; 2) the third patent date noted is May 29, 1877 not 1872 and 3) none have the diagonal overprint noted by Mr. Horstman. In addition: The Laugenour checks were printed by the "Union Litho Co., S.F." while the Bank of Woodland checks have "Hall, Providence & San Francisco" on them.

"The stamps on the F&M checkbooks are identical with the others except that the lower right hand panel which lists the three patent owners shows instead "Made by/Union Lithograph Co./316 Sacramento St./San Francisco, Cal." "

The above is the only answer received to 8-13 with the exception that one correspondent indicates that he wrote directly to Mr. Horstman on the issue, and wonders if that is O.K. This brings up a good point. If the source of a question is known, it is O.K. with me if members wish to write directly to the questioner, but I think a copy should be sent in for inclusion in the column for edification of all the members, especially those who might have had their interest in a particular item piqued by the question. Agree?

NEW QUESTIONS:

9-14 What does "Agreeably to Special Contract" mean on the check illustrated below? The questioner indicates that he has been involved in considerable correspondence on this point, but to date has had absolutely no success. Can anyone help? Or make a guess or two?



THE QUESTION BOX (Cont'd)

9-15 One of the members writes that he is very deeply involved with the banks that existed in Boston during the period from about 1860 through 1910. He has been working on building a collection of checks from the Boston banks of that era and has 30 different ones now. He's wondering if anyone can provide any idea of the number of check-issuing banks that existed in Boston during the period. Can anyone come up with a guess on this one?

9-16 Our editor Bob Flaig sends in the following excerpt from a letter from a member:
"And (I received) some photocopies of some pay vouchers dated 1902 which were rubber stamped:

Payable ½ Gold, ½ Silver
&
Payable in Silver
&
Payable in Silver with Silver
crossed out and Gold written over it.

"What do you make of that? All my other split-payment stuff was dated in the 1870's---am really surprised that the practice persisted into the 20th Century--and Why? As late as 1902 do you suppose there was a practical difference between the value of silver and the value of gold--and did banks carry an account in each currency for it's customers who wanted to follow this practice." Several very intriguing points are contained in the above--anyone have any information?

9-17 What is the precise distinction between "Pay To" and "Pay To The Order Of" as used on the face of checks. Could the payee on a "Pay To" check not endorse (or order) the item to pay it to another party?

9-18 Wonder what the occupations of the membership are? I know several who are in banking or allied fields which produces a natural interest in banking history, but wonder how people in other occupations became interested? How about each member sending in a very brief account of how he first became interested in the collecting of checks and list his occupation. These replies will be tabulated and included in a forthcoming issue for the general information and possibly amusement of the membership. For example: I work for Bethlehem Steel Company. What has that got to do with checks??? Could be a very interesting item to read when all the members have written in. Your help (all of you) is needed!

Received many answers to the questions in issue #8 but not many new questions. No matter how simple your question may appear to be, ask it--you might be surprised how involved the answer can be. And keep the answers coming--we need both questions and answers to keep the column rolling. Vince.

* * * * *

CENTRAL STATES NUMISMATIC SOCIETY CONVENTION APRIL 28-30, 1972

CCRT has received an invitation from the General Chairman, A.P. (Del) Bertschy to participate in their 33rd Anniversary Convention to be held at the Red Carpet Inn - Expo Convention Center, 4747 South Howel Ave., Milwaukee, Wisconsin on the above dates. Mr. Bertschy's letter reads in part, "We plan to provide FREE space at the Red Carpet Inn for any numismatically related splinter groups who desire to meet in conjunction with this convention. Please consider this an official invitation for your organization to so participate." This will no doubt be another great affair; their last one was! Mark your calender!